

## Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 STATE 106141

64

ORIGIN DPW-01

INFO OCT-01 EA-11 ISO-00 DODE-00 SCS-03 SCA-01 IO-14 PM-07

NSC-07 SP-03 SS-20 RSC-01 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 /079 R

DRAFTED BY D/PW:FASIEVERTS:JS

APPROVED BY EA - M. STEARNS

EA/LC - MR. THOMSON

DOD/ISA - DR. SHIELDS (INFO)

----- 111407

P 212030Z MAY 74

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE PRIORITY

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE STATE 106141

E.O. 11652 NA

TAGS: MOPS, LA

SUBJECT: PW/MIA'S

1. MR. AND MRS. WALTER GOURLEY, OF IOWA, WHOSE SON, AF CAPT. LAURENT LEE GOURLEY HAS BEEN MIA IN LAOS SINCE 9 AUGUST 1969 TELEPHONED DEPTOFF MAY 21 TO REPORT THEY HAD RECEIVED LETTER DTD MAY 10 FROM "OUDONE CHANTHARASY," PRIVATE SECRETARY TO THE PRIME MINISTER, RESPONDING TO LETTER MRS. GOURLEY HAD SENT TO SOUVANNA APRIL 30. LETTER IS IN ENGLISH AND READS AS FOLLOWS:

2. BEGIN TEXT: IN RESPONSE TO YOUR LETTER OF APRIL 30 TO SOUVANNA PHOUMA, PRIME MINISTER OF LAOS, I HAVE THE HONOR TO INFORM YOU THAT THE LETTER OF YOUR SON IS GIVEN TO HE PHOUMI VONGVICHIT, DEPUTY PM AND FOREIGN MINISTER OF LAOS, WHO WILL CONVEY IT LATER TO YOUR SON. END TEXT.

3. GOURLEYS RECOGNIZE THAT WORDING OF FINAL PHRASE MAY RESULT FROM THE WRITER'S LIMITED COMMAND OF ENGLISH. AT SAME TIME, THEY ARE HEARTENED BY THIS INDICATION THAT THE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 STATE 106141

NEW GOVERNMENT MIGHT BE RESPONSIVE TO APPEALS SUCH AS

THEIRS ABOUT OUR MIA'S. WHEN DEPTOFF SUGGESTED THEY FOLLOW UP WITH LETTER TO VONGVICHIT, GOURLEYS SAID THEY HAD ALREADY DONE SO (ON MAY 20).

4. SUGGEST EMBASSY CONTACT SOUVANNA'S OFFICE TO CHECK WORDING OF LETTER TO GOURLEYS. UNLESS THE WRITER INTENDED TO SUGGEST CAPT. GOURLEY IS ALIVE, HE SHOULD BE CAUTIONED TO MODIFY HIS LANGUAGE ON THIS SENSITIVE SUBJECT IN FUTURE COMMUNICATIONS TO FAMILIES. GOURLEY FAMILY WOULD ALSO BE GLAD TO HAVE MISSION CONTACT VONGVICHIT ON THEIR BEHALF TO REQUEST RESPONSE TO THEIR LETTERS.

5. PLEASE ADVISE.

RUSH

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** MIA  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 21 MAY 1974  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** GarlanWA  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1974STATE106141  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** FASIEVERTS:JS  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D740126-0462  
**From:** STATE  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1974/newtext/t19740529/aaaaaztt.tel  
**Line Count:** 76  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Office:** ORIGIN DPW  
**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** GarlanWA  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 07 AUG 2002  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <07-Aug-2002 by worrelsw>; APPROVED <26 FEB 2003 by GarlanWA>  
**Review Markings:**

Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
30 JUN 2005

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** PW/MIA'S  
**TAGS:** MOPS, LA, US, (GOURLEY, LAURENT LEE)  
**To:** VIENTIANE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005